

Tropical Storm Jeff was first detected as a distinct surface circulation through synoptic data analysis on 18 November. Jeff developed from the second of two major disturbances that formed in the wake of Typhoon Hazen (25). The first disturbance, Super Typhoon Irma (26), was a determining factor in Jeff's development, intensity and track.

The first warning on Jeff was issued on 23 November. This was during the period that Irma dominated the wind fields of the western Pacific (21-25 Nov). Irma's strong low-level inflow was the major steering force in the early part of Jeff's life as he followed Irma across the Pacific (Fig. 3-27-1). Strong outflow from Irma created an upper-level east-west ridge that stretched across the western Pacific. Because of the expansiveness of the ridge and the small areal extent of Jeff's convection, he was prohibited from reaching favorable outflow

channels.

Jeff, due mainly to a lack of upper-level support, never intensified beyond minimal tropical storm strength (Fig. 3-27-2). Jeff's initial movement, as a weak disturbance, was northwest towards Guam, following the low-level flow into Irma. Jeff reached tropical storm strength on 23 November, just after turning west towards Guam, eventually passing 15 nm (28 km) north of the island. Jeff's westward acceleration, just prior to reaching Guam resulted from a mid-tropospheric ridge that had built eastward from Taiwan. Maintaining an intensity between 30 and 35 kt (15 to 18 m/sec), Jeff continued westward until the forecast recurvature through a break in the ridge occurred near 130E. Jeff dissipated over water on 26 November due to increasing upper-level wind shear. The final warning was issued when aircraft reconnaissance could no longer discern a surface circulation.

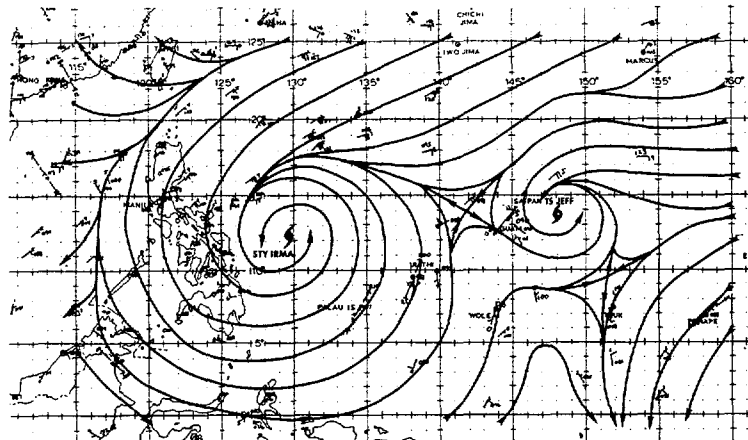


FIGURE 3-27-1. Surface (—)/gradient (—) level streamline analysis for 230000Z NOV showing the low-level flow into Super Typhoon Irma. This flow pattern acted as low-level steering for Jeff.

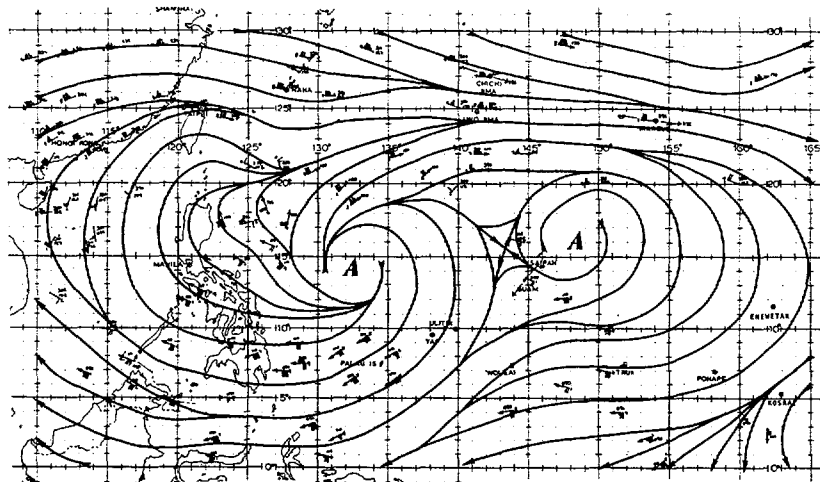


FIGURE 3-27-2. 200 nm streamline analysis at 221200Z November. Note the broad ridge across the western Pacific. Wind data are a combination rawinsonde, AIREPS, and satellite derived winds (—).